

WRITING ASSESSMENT
Write your final composition here.

G 24a

High school students, throughout their career, have had to pass various tests in order to graduate. I disagree with the fact that they are necessary. Though these tests allow the school to see a student's limitations, I feel that there are other ways. As long as the student knows how to function in everyday society, I don't see the need of final exams. Personality, attitude, and determination are qualities in a student that I think will suffice.

What do these tests prove? Honestly, I think they prove nothing other than how well students retain information. Each Gateway test is specific in a certain area of information. These students gain knowledge at a certain amount, allowing them to respond in their own way. By setting up these tests, we are pressurizing an individual to conform to someone else's standards, which is not necessary. These tests are a hindrance to how a person develops.

However, I do believe that obstacles in life strengthen or weaken a person's character, my most theoretical viewpoint at this time. I stand on the fact that learning and curiosity varies among individuals. These tests, obstacles unnecessary, can squash that want to learn and one's natural curiosity. A test does not help you learn, it merely seeks the limits of your learning. Experience helps you learn. It is to say that a school should provide experience for all individuals and allow them more freedom to experiment.

Life itself is a test. It is a test that is put upon a human being when born. How well you do depends on

how well you live. Instead of putting stress on individuals to learn and force them to standards, why not let them take their own course? I believe that facts and knowledge is best attained when a person seeks it, not when it is forced. Life, along with learning, requires patience. A test only puts stress on a person to learn as fast as he can the amount of knowledge required. School is a place to learn. It should also be a place of patience.

Overall... tests that are required for graduation, dull the mind's curiosity and want to learn. The mind, in the present time, has been stretched to certain limits and this should not be so. I totally believe in a person's ability to succeed by his own actions. Standards and levels only stand as an obstacle, some things go towards these tests. I think the world is better off with people wanting to learn.

Score Point: 6

This response reflects an outstanding degree of proficiency in persuasive writing skills. The writer's opposition to requiring students to pass an exit test is strongly presented. This opposition is supported by key ideas that are both thoughtful and philosophical. Syntactic variety and facility in the use of language are evident throughout (personality, attitude, and determination are qualities that I think will suffice, a test does not help you learn, it merely seeks the limits of your learning, and life, along with learning, requires patience). The response is complete and unified, and the writer sustains a strong persuasive tone.